

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-01 VO-03 SCA-01 INSE-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01 /038 W

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R 171850Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0467

USIA WASHDC

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VIENTIANE FOR PATE

USIA/IEA FOR DEP. ASST. DIR. CLIFTON FORSTER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, US, LA

SUBJECT: STATUS OF MR. BOUAPHET SYGNAVONG

REF: VIENTIANE 4061

1. ON JUNE 13 BOUAPHET SYGNAVONG CAME TO SEE EMBOFF.

BOUAPHET'S PRESENT ADDRESS IS:

C/O MR. SASORITH

16 RUE DE LA DIVISION DU GENERAL LECLERC

TEL: 588-55-70.

HE SAID THAT HE HAD NO INTENTION OF RETURNING TO LAOS, PARTICULARLY SINCE ON MAY 13 HE WAS STRUCK FROM THE ROLES OF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION DESPITE ASSURANCES ON HIS DEPARTURE FROM THE SECSTATE FOR INFORMATION THAT HE WOULD BE PERMITTED AN EXTENDED LEAVE OF ABSENCE. HE HAS BEEN LOOKING FOR WORK IN FRANCE WITH NO SUCCESS TO DATE. HE THINKS IT MOST UNLIKELY THAT HE WILL BE ABLE TO FIND ANY WORK RELATED TO HIS TRAINING AND INTEREST IN JOURNALISM. HE HOPED THAT PATE COULD ARRANGE SOME EMPLOYMENT FOR HIM IN THE UNITED STATES OR A FELLOWSHIP

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FOR FURTHER STUDY. HE WAS STILL WAITING TO HEAR FROM

PATE ABOUT PROSPECTS IN THE UNITED STATES. HE WISHED EMPLOYMENT EITHER IN A TRAVEL AGENCY OR FOR AN AIRLINE TO PERMIT HIM TO TRAVEL OCCASIONALLY TO SEA. HE ALSO CONSIDERED, AS SECOND CHOICE, EMPLOYMENT BY THE VOA, FOR WHICH HIS JOURNALIST TRAINING SHOULD BE OF ASSISTANCE. FURTHER STUDY HE CONSIDERED TO BE A LESS DESIRABLE THIRD CHOICE BECAUSE OF HIS AGE.

2. BOUAPHET COMMENTED THAT ONE DISADVANTAGE OF REMAINING IN FRANCE WAS THE GOF REQUIREMENT THAT HE ABANDON ALL POLITICAL ACTIVITY. NONETHELESS HE WAS PREPARED TO REMAIN HERE OR GO TO THE UNITED STATES, WHEREVER EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS WERE BETTER. HE COMMENTED HE HAD ADEQUATE FUNDS FOR ANOTHER TWO MONTHS.

3. EMBOFF SAID MERELY THAT HE WOULD REPORT BOUAPHET'S VIEWS TO VIENTIANE AND THE DEPARTMENT. WE UNDERSTAND THAT LAO ARE NOT COVERED BY CURRENT GUIDANCE ABOUT OTHER INDOCHINESE REFUGEES: SPECIAL HANDLING OF LAO REFUGEES WILL BE MADE ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS AND, IN GENERAL, THE PROSPECTS ARE NOT ENCOURAGING. WE SHALL LEAVE INITIATIVE TO BOUAPHET UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE BY DEPARTMENT OR VIENTIANE WISHES MORE INFORMATION.
RUSH

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